

## PENSION POINTERS.

Inquiries Answered and Suggestions Made.

## IMPORTANT TO CLAIMANTS.

We have prepared a new edition of "The National Tribune Soldier's Handbook," which contains all the new laws passed by the recent session of Congress, together with late rulings and decisions, making it a guide to the law and practice in pension, bounty, and back pay matters up to date. Mailed to any address for 25 cents. Address THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE, Washington, D. C.

S. J. F. Tugus, Me.—It is held that desertion from service either before or since the war of 1861-5, does not bar a pension under the act of June 27, 1890.

F. T. Snodgrass, Wash.—The Secretary of the Interior has decided that the act of May 9, 1900, amending the pension act of June 27, 1890, does not make any substantial change in the law as to invalid pensioners under the act of 1890, but simply was designed to prevent the recurrence of a practice which it has been charged existed at some time in the past. The new act will not reopen your record, but any pension which was granted prior to the time it was filed. It would be well for you to file a new application now, as it is quite likely to be settled before your appeal is reached.

S. G. Havensville, Kans.—By an act of March 3, 1899, the act of 1890, revised Statutes, 818 is made the basis of ratings for disabilities under general pension law where no rate is fixed by law or regulation. At the time the law was enacted 818 was the act for loss of a hand or arm, foot or leg, or total disability of the same; so that, in theory at least, the ratings for disabilities or degrees of disability are not subject to change for are on the basis of loss of arm or leg.

Soldier's Wife, Ashland, Ore.—The rate of widow's pension granted under the act of June 27, 1890, is only \$8; the same rate is allowed under the general law if the widow was not married to the soldier before March 19, 1898, if since that date, before or during the soldier's service.

G. S. S. Mendota, Ill.—The act of May 9, 1900, does not relate to pensions or claims under the general law. If you wish to obtain pension on disabilities not proven as of service origin, you must apply under the act of June 27, 1890, "as amended by the act of May 9, 1900." The widow could not claim on the marriage from which she was divorced. Her title to her pension is marriage which must be her legal widow; so that if her second marriage to him was after June 28, 1890, she cannot claim pension under the act of 1890.

J. H. W. New Bedford, Mass.—It does not matter how long ago or how recently a pensioner served in the war, if he is entitled to admission to the Soldiers' Home at Washington, D. C.

F. D. Sioux City, Ia.—The Medical Division of the Pension Bureau has practically final decision on medical questions in pension cases. As you are a pensioner, and apparently greatly disabled, probably you could get \$12 per month by applying under the act of June 27, 1890.

W. S. R. Phoenix, N. Y.—Whenever you can satisfactorily prove your general law claim and the act of 1890 claim, date back to the time the application was filed. It is very questionable if two comrades' affidavits will be accepted as establishing your claim, in the absence of official record or medical evidence establishing the existence of the disability in service or at discharge.

H. H. W. Athens, O.—In the absence of widow, child or parents, the brothers and sisters of a soldier dying in Confederate prison in the war of 1861-5 may collect commutation of his ratings.

Subscriber, Curryville, Mo.—Only the provisional pension act of 1890, entitled "Provisional Pension Act," are entitled to pension under the general law and act of 1890.

Work of the Pension Office.  
The report of certificates issued for the week ending Aug. 11 shows—  
Army invalid: Original, 33; increase and additional, 200; reissue, 39; restoration and renewal, 35; duplicate, 5; accrued, 307; total, 591.

Army invalid (act of June 27, 1890): Original, 583; increase, 480; additional, 81; reissue, 15; restoration and renewal, 55; duplicate, 16; accrued, 1,280.

Army invalid (war with Spain): Original, 20; increase and additional, 1; reissue, 1; restoration and renewal, 2; accrued, 4; total, 49.

Army widow (act of June 27, 1890): Original, 312; increase and additional, 1; reissue, 1; restoration and renewal, 1; supplemental, 1; duplicate, 3; accrued, 4; total, 323.

Army widow (war with Spain): Original, 13; increase and additional, 1; reissue, 1; restoration and renewal, 2; accrued, 4; total, 21.

Old war widows: Original, 1; restoration and renewal, 1; duplicate, 1; accrued, 9; total, 10.

Mexican war—Widows: Original, 11; increase and additional, 1; reissue, 4; restoration and renewal, 7; duplicate, 27; accrued, 285. Grand total, 2,498.

Encampment Program and Souvenir of Chicago.

A beautiful booklet of some 20 pages, under the above title, comes to hand. It is issued by the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad, and contains a vast deal of information for so small a book.

First, there is a description of the Exercises of the National Encampment from Aug. 25 to 30 inclusive, and the following pages give a condensed history of Chicago from its foundation to the present time. There is a brief statement as to its first settlement and the chief events of its remarkable career. Old Fort Dearborn, and various other interesting things of by-gone days are given in chronological order. It comes a little later the phenomenal progress of the city, created from an Indian trading village to a metropolis in less than 50 years, until now, with only 63 years of civic history, it has approached that of the 2,000-year-old metropolis of Rome. The book is illustrated by delicate half-tone engravings of historic interest, among which are the Lincoln Monument and the Grant Monument at Lincoln Park, St. Gaudens' equestrian statue of Gen. Logan on the Lake Front, the Chicago Public Library, and the Grand Army Memorial Hall on Michigan Avenue, the Fort Dearborn Massacre Monument, and numerous other views of buildings and streets from the first settlement at Wolfe's Point, in 1837, down to the present date.

There is also a complete list of the city, a list of its parks, boulevards, railroad stations, public buildings, and an enormous amount of miscellaneous information which visitors to the city will find indispensable to their comfort and convenience in traveling about the city. We understand that this booklet will be sent free by application to the Passenger Department of the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad, Chicago, and enclosing a two-cent postage stamp.

## MICHIGAN AFFAIRS.

Loyal Women and Their Work in Behalf of the Veterans.

EDITOR NATIONAL TRIBUNE: The 17th Annual Convention of the Department of Michigan, held in Grand Rapids, was one of the largest in recent years. About 400 Delegates and visiting members were in attendance. Among them were many of the best of the State, and many other Past Department officers.

The Convention reports showed the Order to be in a most satisfactory and flourishing condition. There was a net gain during the year of 229, making the total membership in this Department to-day of 8,155. The relief in cash and supplies assisted the year, 401; number of members assisted, 515 and 1,135 soldiers' families.

The following officers were elected and appointed for the ensuing year: Pres., Annie E. Todd, Three Rivers; Sec., V. L. George, Grand Rapids; Treas., S. V. L. Agnes M. Wiley, Albion; Treas., Susan Pealer, Three Rivers; Counselor, Ellen M. Herndon, Three Rivers; Counselor, Alice R. Flagg, Battle Creek; Inspector, Mary L. Auld, Northville; L. and O. Officers, Anna L. Shakespeare, Kalamazoo; Patriotic Instructor, Emma E. Knapp, Howell.

Executive Board—Fannie B. Nodell, Coldwater; Mima Redford, Jackson; Josephine A. Post, Port Huron; Addie R. Hall, Saginaw; Florence Moody, Detroit.

Committees appointed: Elizabeth Humphreys, Detroit; Elizabeth P. Pond, Lansing; Alice M. Bliss, Saginaw.

Relief—Hattie P. Thompson, Flint; Eliza J. Barker, Reed City; Eveline Currier, Detroit.

Press Correspondent—Cornelia S. Perry, Lansing.

Delegates to National Convention—Delegates at Large, Carrie E. Torrey, Rochester; District No. 1, Mary L. Auld, Northville; District No. 2, Florence C. Gove, Petersburg; District No. 3, Elizabeth Kenner, Lansing; District No. 4, Maggie Town, Marshall; District No. 5, Emma Cole, Coopersville; District No. 6, Nellie Suran, Kalamazoo; District No. 7, Elizabeth Southworth, Ovid; District No. 8, Ellen Quinn, Owosso; District No. 9, Sarah Allen, Saginaw; District No. 10, Eliza Auld, Hart; District No. 11, Mary Davidson, East Falls; District No. 12, Large, Martha Hall, Coldwater; District No. 13, Julia Martin, Detroit; District No. 14, Mrs. Buchanan, Clinton; District No. 15, Mrs. L. Leslie, Detroit; District No. 16, Mattie Byrne, Galesburg; District No. 17, Jennie Seery, Allegan; District No. 18, Emma Rains, Grand Rapids; District No. 19, Jane Emmons, Elsie; District No. 20, Ella Bunn, Flint; District No. 21, Clara Cunningham, Saginaw; District No. 22, Maria Cannon, Big Rapids; District No. 23, Margaret Barry, Sault Ste. Marie.

One of the brightest, cheeriest of letters, pulsating with energy, joy, harmony and activity, comes from Corps 210, of Romeo, and is a proof that numbers alone do not make the Corps. They have been organized six and a half years and number but 17 members, yet they have accomplished what is to be accomplished in letters of gold on the roll of honor. We let the Press Correspondent tell it in her own way: "We wanted some object to erect a soldier's monument in our cemetery. After awhile the Post saw we were in earnest and joined forces with us, and we elected one of their number, Rev. H. W. Whitney, to be the monument. He has been for many years, and the present incumbent, to act as a committee to solicit funds. He put his whole heart and soul in the work, and as a result of the united labors of the Corps and the Post, we have a beautiful white bronze monument that cost at the shop \$1,375. Of this amount our little Corps made nearly \$300 by socials and teas. During that time we did the most for our monument, and very frequently we aided the Post."

Mrs. Alasheba M. Bliss, wife of Col. A. T. Bliss, Republican nominee for Governor, is a Past Department President. Michigan W. R. B. and is regularly found among the workers at every Convention, and in her own home Corps of Saginaw, for which she is Press Correspondent. At all times and on all occasions she is ready to quickly respond to any appeal for the veteran or his dependent ones. Her distinguished husband ranks high in Grand Army circles, having served as Department Commander, and is largely assisted by the patriotic wife.

Wm. Moyer Corps, 183, of Alma, number 40 members. Having but little relief work to do, they take pleasure and pride in organizing a social entertainment for the Post. In this way throwing a large amount of sunshine into the lives of the aging veterans which they could get from no other source.

Corps No. 7, of Lansing, stands as the banner Corps in the Department in point of numbers. It is presided over by Jennie L. Pond, wife of Col. C. V. R. Pond, A. G. G. of A. R., who is using her fine talents and energy in placing No. 7 at the top in matter of relief. Fairbanks Corps 10 has stood first in relief for many years, and the Department is proud of No. 10.

Bellevue, Eaton County, is a little Corps composed now of but 17 members that has figured conspicuously in the Department almost from its organization in 1891, when it took the original number, 30. It has for its President, Mrs. Mary E. Lyon, a woman of a solid, steady, and for a number of years carried upon its roster two members of the Department. Always loyal, always willing a sweet influence, it has been a source of good from its birth—C. S. P.

COMMANDER G. H. SLAYBAUGH.

Visit to Lincoln's Home at Springfield.

EDITOR NATIONAL TRIBUNE: I have been much interested in "Every Day Life of Abraham Lincoln," in your valuable paper. Early in 1891 I was teaching at Harrisonville, Mo., and I suggested to some of my men attending school that we go down some day to Springfield and call on the president-elect. We called in the morning, and he came in to see the president-elect. We called in the morning, and he came in to see the president-elect. We called in the morning, and he came in to see the president-elect.

Comrade Slaybaugh enlisted in Co. K, 101st Pa., in 1861, when less than 16 years of age. He re-enlisted Jan. 1, 1863, and in May, 1864, declined a discharge tendered him on account of physical disability. Owing to his disability he was after acting as a representative from the Post to the Department Encampment for 10 successive years. He has been one of the Trustees and Chairman of the Finance Committee of the Post for many years.

In February, 1890, he was elected Senior Vice-Commander of the Department, and last February was made its Commander. That Comrade Slaybaugh has shown himself an efficient Grand Army man and that his work has been appreciated by his comrades is fully attested by the fact that he was elected Department Commander and to every elective position which he has held without a dissenting vote.

WEST VIRGINIA COMMANDER.

Varied Experience of Arnold Brandley, the Present Head of This Department.

Commander Arnold Brandley, of the Department of West Virginia, was born in Samaden, Switzerland, March 12, 1843. He came to the United States with his parents at the age of eight years, in the year 1851, landing in New Orleans. After remaining there five weeks, his father becoming afraid of the yellow fever, the family removed by steamer to Cincinnati, O. The family resided at Cincinnati and Covington, Ky., until 1855, when they removed to Randolph Co., Ind., living on a farm. Becoming dissatisfied, Arnold Brandley, at the age of 13 years, ran away from home, and hired with a farmer at \$2 per month, staying six months, after which he accepted a position with a jeweler at Pomeroy, O., to learn the trade at a salary of \$1.00 per week, and was apprenticed to the trade. A few weeks before his three years expired Fort Sumter was fired on, and President Lincoln's first call for 75,000 men, on the 4th day of April, 1861, at the age of 18, enlisted in Co. F, 18th Ohio. He was the thirtieth name on the roll in Meigs Co., O. He served in the 18th Ohio, and was discharged in 1862.

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## REUNIONS.